



Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

Minutes of a Regular Meeting

Date of Meeting: Friday, June 23, 2017
Location: CRD Portable, 145 Vesuvius Bay Road
Salt Spring Island

Members Present: George Grams, Chair, Islands Trust Local Trustee
Dale Green, Capital Regional District, Integrated Watershed (via web conferencing)
Doreen Hewitt, Beddis Water Service Area Commissioner
Pat Lapcevic, Ministry of Forests, Lands and Natural Resource Operations (FLNRO) (via web conferencing)
Sharon Bywater, Fernwood Water Service Area Commissioner (Alternate for Lorrie Hunt)
Wayne McIntyre, Deputy Chair, Capital Regional District (CRD) Director

Regrets: Lorrie Hunt, Fernwood Water Service Area Commissioner
Derek Masselink, Ministry of Agriculture
Ron Stepaniuk, District Manager, North Salt Spring Waterworks District (NSSWD)

Staff Present: Shannon Cowan, Coordinator
Justine Starke, Island Planner (North Pender Island) (via web conferencing)
Sarah Shugar, Recorder

Technical Working Group Liaison: Don Hodgins, Co-chair, SSIWPA Technical Working Group

Conservation Working Group: Sandra Ungerson, Chair, SSIWPA Conservation and Efficiency Working Group

Media and Others Present: 1 member of the public

These minutes follow the order of the agenda although the sequence may have varied.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Grams called the meeting to order at 10:32 a.m. and welcomed Sharon Bywater, Highland and Fernwood Service Area Commissioner.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following addition to the agenda was presented for consideration:

4.13.2 Rainwater Harvesting Tour – October 14, 2017

By general consent, the agenda was adopted as amended.

3. MINUTES

3.1 Draft Minutes of the May 19, 2017 Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Regular Meeting

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority Minutes of May 19, 2017 were adopted.

4. BUSINESS ITEMS

4.1 Chair's Report

Chair Grams reported he presented an update regarding SSIWPA at the Islands Trust Council on Lasqueti Island. He met with new NSSWD Trustee Michael McAllister regarding the work of SSIWPA. He reported that the LTC has invited the North Salt Spring Waterworks District Board to a meeting. regarding the Kerr Wood Leidal report and other matters. Chair Grams announced the new Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist has been hired and will be based out of the Victoria office. Chair Grams is planning to attend the Islands Trust Well Owner workshop on June 30, 2017.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to invite the new Islands Trust Freshwater Specialist to attend a SSIWPA meeting.

4.2 St. Mary Lake Water Quality Update – NSSWD Board Representative – none

4.3 Cusheon Lake Water Quality Update – Beddis Water Commissioner

Committee Member Hewitt presented an update regarding the Cusheon Lake Watershed and the following highlights were noted:

- The lake level on June 22, 2017 was 1.316 metres; in June 2016 the lake level was 1.098 metres.
- The lake level has increased slightly and is controlled by the beaver dam and salmon enhancement activities.
- Secchi disk was 4 metres on June 22, 2017, while last year it was clearer with a reading of 5 metres.
- Precipitation received at Salt Spring Elementary: Total May 2017: 41.1 mm
Comparison for June 2015: 5.8 mm; Total Apr, May and June 2015 was 46.6 mm; June 2016: 36.8 mm; Total Apr, May and June 2016 was 72.8 mm; June 2017: 28.7 mm; Total Apr, May and June 2017 was 149.3 mm.
- There has been considerable rain in the last 3 months but this does not accumulate very much in the lake.
- The beaver dam is washed away in the winter and the lake flushes in the winter until the beaver dam is built again.

4.4 Coordinator's Report

Coordinator Cowan presented the Coordinator's Report for the period of May 13, 2017 to June 16, 2017 and highlighted the following items:

- Data sharing with the community wells groups (improvement districts and private water systems groups) is ongoing. Interviews are being conducted and the data files inventoried. Six groups are complete and three are outstanding.
- The stream monitoring program is ongoing. The FLNRO Fish and Wildlife aquatic ecologist will be conducting the second site visit, next week, to check on the water level data loggers and temperature data loggers. There was an issue with the Fulford Creek station.
- The Agricultural Land Use Inventory will occur the third week of July, and there was a request for assistance to coordinate volunteers and update the farm list.

The stream monitoring does not include quality measures. The volunteers are measuring depth and width and a data logger is monitoring the temperature (an indicator for fish and wildlife health). Two sites have no volunteers, and they have water level loggers installed instead. All of the data will be logged by FLNRO and SSIWPA. The stream monitoring program will inform the Golder phase two study.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed that Coordinator Cowan would continue to assist Derek Masselink with the Agricultural Land Use Inventory to coordinate volunteers and update the farm list.

4.5 Technical Working Group Report

Technical Working Group Co-chair Hodgins presented the following report:

- Safe supply from surface water:
 - The external review has been received and there was nothing noted in the review that has cause for concern regarding the methods. Committee Member Hodgins has looked at the long-term analysis and the completion of the response to the review will likely be received at the July SSIWPA steering committee meeting. The delay is a result of re-evaluating the safe supply values.
- Cusheon Lake Hydrology Study:
 - A TWG member attended the Squires/Bodaly Blackburn Watershed presentation and it was noted there is a need to continue monitoring to achieve a more comprehensive chemistry suite and for continued monitoring for the hydrology of Cusheon Lake. The available chemistry data do not provide a good basis for assessing the long-term change in lake water quality.

Planner Starke noted NSSWD staff and Islands Trust staff met and NSSWD is undertaking an update to the report released in 2015 by Kerr Wood Leidal. The update is expected to consist of St. Mary Lake hydrology, and also to include an analysis of yield from the watershed.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority

agreed to request that TWG advise Steering Committee at its next regular meeting on comparative study methods used by Kerr Wood Leidal in the 2015 St. Mary Lake Report, and by TWG's Don Hodgins in the Draft St. Mary Lake Safe Yield Analysis report.

4.6 Conservation and Efficiency Working Group update - CEWG Chair

Conservation and Efficiency Working Group Chair Ungerson presented the SSIWPA Integrated Water Management Program Workplan – Scope of Work Memoranda dated June 13, 2017 and noted the workplan will be as collaborative as possible.

4.7 Approve Scope of Work Memos - CEWG Chair, Sandra Ungerson

4.7.1 IWM Task 8 “Compare Water Conservation and Efficiency Technologies”

4.7.2 IWM Task 8a “Rain Harvesting Alternatives”

4.7.3 IWM Task 8b “Reclaimed Water Feasibility”

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority approved the Conservation and Efficiency Working Group Integrated Water Management Program Workplan – Scope of Work Memoranda.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority request CEWG Chair Ungerson to draft a summary of the CEWG workplan for the Driftwood newspaper and the Watermark newsletter.

It was noted the Ganges Wastewater report would be a resource for the CEWG.

There was discussion regarding public outreach and marketing of SSIWPA activities.

4.8 SSIWPA IWM Budget requests to Local Trust Committee

Planner Starke reported a staff report would be received by the Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee on June 29, 2017 regarding funding for the well inventory and monitoring and approval for the Islands Trust to be the “home” agency for the REFBC grant funding.

4.9 REFBC Application for funding - IWM Task 5b

Coordinator Cowan reported the REFBC application is 60% complete and would be submitted by the Islands Trust grant coordinator pending approval from Salt Spring Island Local Trust Committee to manage the terms of reference for the project.

The total project costs is estimated at \$21,000 and the REFBC grant application total is approximately \$9,000.

4.10 Revised TWG Terms of Reference

The draft Technical Working Group Terms of Reference was presented.

There was discussion regarding Objective Item 2 “to identify critical information gaps and fill them”.

By general consent, the Salt Spring Island Watershed Protection Authority agreed to amend the terms of reference as follows: “Objective Item 2 – To identify critical information gaps” and include another item as follows “Bring to SSIWPA suggested methods in which those gaps could be filled” and Coordinator Cowan will circulate an amended draft to Committee Members.

4.12 Correspondence

4.12.1 June 8, 2017 - Letter to Steering Committee regarding proposed new regulations related watershed protection and agriculture in Rural Watershed zones 1 and 2

4.12.2 May 17, 2017 - Royal Roads University “SSI Rain Harvesting Survey and Assessment” project quarterly progress report

The final results will be presented August 28 or 29, 2017 at Royal Roads University, and Sandra Ungerson and/or Shannon Cowan will attend on behalf of SSIWPA. SSIWPA Committee Members are welcome to attend.

The correspondence was received.

4.13 Events and Announcements

4.13.1 Well Owner Workshop - Friday, June 30, 2017, 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the Lion’s Hall, 103 Bonnet Avenue

4.13.2 Rainwater Harvesting Tour – October 14, 2017

5. OTHER BUSINESS

5.1 Questions and Comments from Public - none

6. NEXT MEETING

The next regular meeting is scheduled for Friday, July 21, 2017 at 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at the School District 64 Boardroom Portable, 112 Rainbow Road.

7. ADJOURNMENT

By general consent the meeting adjourned at 11:48 a.m.

George Grams, Chair

CERTIFIED CORRECT:

Sarah Shugar, Recorder